

From U. S. Biological Survey
Washington, D. C.

For release when local
CCC camp celebrates
anniversary

FOURTH ANNIVERSARY
OF CCC IS CELEBRATED
AT PEA ISLAND REFUGE

Apr. 2, 1937

U. S. Biological Survey
Congratulates Boys
on "Good Job."

Civilian Conservation Corps boys doing development work on the Pea Island Migratory Waterfowl Refuge, located in Dare county, North Carolina near Manteo, have done a good job, says Ira N. Gabrielson, Chief of the U. S. Biological Survey, in congratulating the boys on the fourth anniversary of the C. C. C.
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The Pea Island Camp is celebrating today (fill in date and brief explanation of ceremonies planned).

C. C. C. boys on 17 wildlife refuges are contributing man-power for the Biological Survey's nation-wide refuge program, says Chief Gabrielson. They are, in general, doing two important things: Making the areas more attractive to the birds and the refuges easier to administer.

One of these areas, the Pea Island Refuge is an extremely important wintering area for brant and redhead ducks, both of which are badly in need of protection at the present time.

This refuge also harbors many other species of bird life, including pintails, snow geese, black ducks, scaups, golden-eyes, mallards, buffleheads, black-crowned herons, lesser yellow-legs, red-breasted mergansers, and thousands of Canada geese. Black ducks, black skimmers, terns, and laughing gulls nest on the refuge.

(more)

The C.C.C. boys' accomplishments make these wild creatures feel at home on the Pea Island Refuge, says the Biological Survey Chief. The camp here which has worked for the Survey since April 16, 1936, has turned in a sizable list of projects completed in this short time.

They have, for example, constructed 3,050 rods of fence, six tool boxes; and moved 55,724 cubic yards of materials in the building of levees, dikes, and jetties. They have planted 618 acres to prevent sheet erosion; and cleaned up, in general, 1,184 acres around the refuge.

Besides many days spent in other miscellaneous activities, such as making linear surveys, etc., they have constructed sand fences in many places to prevent the inflow of brackish water from the ocean. There is still much work of this type to be done on the refuge before proper protection from ocean water will be assured.

"All this work", says Dr. Gabrielsen, "is part of the restoration of our American wildlife, an invaluable resource of great benefit to all Americans. The next time that you see a wedge of Canada geese passing high overhead, or hear their thrilling 'honks', you can say to yourself, 'Well, it may be that these 'honkers' are up there because the C.C.C. boys have been doing a good job down at the Pea Island Refuge.'"
